

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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64

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 IGA-01 L-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 IO-03 OES-02 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /046 W

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P 090104Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2241

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 0071

LIMDIS

ARA FOR DEPASSTSEC LUERS; S/NM FOR DUGSTAD: SER/INC

FOR WAMPLER: DEA FOR EOI CUSACK: LIMA FOR VANCE

FOL TEL SENT ACTION JUSTICEDEPT ATTN: AG LEVI FROM MEXICO

JAN. 7

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 0071

LIMDIS

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWARD H. LEVI

FROM AMBASSADOR JOVA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR MX

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION BETWEEN ATTORNEY GENERAL LEVI AND
MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA

REF A. 75 MEXICO 11441, B. 75 MEXICO 11470,

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SUMMARY:

1. AT TIME YOU MET WITH AG OJEDA PAULLADA AT ACAPULCO, YOU ASKED ME TO SEND YOU MEMORANDUM ON MEXICAN AG'S SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. IN INTEREST OF SAVING TIME IN TRANSIT, I AM DOING THIS IN TELEGRAPHIC FORM. IN SUMMARY, FOLLOWING ARE REQUESTS FROM GOM WHICH HAVE YET TO BE ANSWERED DEFINITELY AND CONCERNING WHICH YOUR ACTION MAY BE INDICATED: (A) PROVISION OF FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT FOR FAST PERSONNEL TRANSPORT, AND (B) IDENTIFICATION OF ANY MEXICAN NATIONAL HELICOPTER PILOTS RESIDENT IN U.S.

2. YOU RECALL THAT WE EXPLAINED TO OJEDA PAULLADA THAT THERE WERE BUREAUCRATIC AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS ON U.S. SIDE WHICH REQUIRED THAT USG GET ITS OWN AIR INTERDICTION PLANS IN ORDER BEFORE WE ARE ABLE TO EXPECT GOM TO LAUNCH AN AIR INTERDICTION PROGRAM OF ITS OWN. OJEDA-PAULLADA REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THESE PROBLEMS MAY MAKE THE PROVISION OF INTERDICTION AIRCRAFT DIFFICULT. HE THEN ASKED THAT WE NO LONGER CONSIDER THEM INTERDICTION AIRCRAFT, BUT REALIZE THAT HE REALLY NEEDS THEM FOR RAPID TRANSPORT OF ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WITHIN MEXICO SO THAT TASK GROUPS CAN BE SHIFTED RAPIDLY FROM ONE PART OF COUNTRY TO ANOTHER, AS CASES DEVELOP. AS BEFORE, TURBOCOMMANDERS WOULD BE USED TO LAND PEOPLE IN IMPROVED AIRPORTS, WHILE STOL AIRCRAFT COULD TRANSPORT POLICE OR ARMY UNITS TO THE MORE REMOTE, ROUGHER AIRSTRIPS. WHILE WE PREFER TO RESERVE JUDGMENT ON PROVISIONS OF TURBOCOMMANDERS, WE BELIEVE THAT PROVISION OF TWO STOL AIRCRAFT CAN BE JUSTIFIED. THESE AIRCRAFT CAN BE USED TO PROVIDE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, THEREBY FURTHER REDUCING VALUABLE HELICOPTER FLYING TIME, AS WELL AS ASSISTING INTERDICTIONS UNITS AND OTHER MFJP PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN CAMPAIGN. AG'S AIR FLEET DOES NOT HAVE FIXED WING TROOP CARRYING AIRCRAFT CAPABILITY. THESE AIRCRAFT ARE LESS EXPENSIVE TO OPERATE OR MAINTAIN THAN HELICOPTERS AND CAN OPERATE FROM ROUGH AIRFIELDS OF LESS THAN 1,000 FEET.

3. THE MEXICAN AG ALSO REQUESTED ADDITIONAL
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AERIAL SPRAY EQUIPMENT, TO BE IN-COUNTRY BY MID-JAN. WE EXPECT FIVE ADDITIONAL SIMPLEX SPRAY SYSTEMS BY THAT DATE, AND PLAN TO REQUEST FIVE EVERGREEN MICROFOIL SYSTEMS FOR USE IN THE BELL 212 HELICOPTERS; AT LEAST TWO OF THESE SHOULD ARRIVE BY MID-JAN., WITH OTHER THREE FOLLOWING SHORTLY THEREAFTER. WITH RESPONSIVE SUPPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM OUR WASHINGTON AGENCIES, WE BELIEVE THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS

WILL BE SATISFIED IN TIMELY MANNER.

4. OJEDA-PAULLADA MENTIONED HIS NEED FOR ADDITIONAL HELICOPTER PILOTS, AND ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY MEXICAN NATIONAL SO QUALIFIED LIVING IN U.S. WE UNDERSTAND SEARCH TO IDENTIFY THESE PERSONNEL IS ALREADY UNDERWAY, AND URGE THAT IT BE COMPLETED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. WE SUGGEST THAT MILITARY BE CONTACTED AS POSSIBLE SOURCE FOR FORMER PERSONNEL WHO MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS. WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT ADVERTISEMENTS BE PLACED IN MAJOR NEWSPAPERS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY ANNOUNCING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE MEXICAN CITIZENS QUALIFIED AS HELICOPTER PILOTS RESIDING IN U.S.

5. LASTLY, OJEDA-PAULLADA ASKED FOR EXPEDITIOUS DELIVERY OF ROADBLOCK VEHICLES AND MAPS OF ERADICATION AREAS. FORMER WILL BE IN-COUNTRY IN ABOUT ONE WEEK, WHILE MOST OF MAPS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED.

6. I SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN IN MEXICO, AND FOR YOUR EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HELP IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. JOVA

UNQUOTE

JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO00071
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760007-0701
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760171/aaaaciqb.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 76 MEXICO 11441, 76 MEXICO 11470
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION BETWEEN ATTORNEY GENERAL LEVI AND MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA
TAGS: SNAR, MX, (LEVI, EDWARD H), (OJEDA PAULLADA, PEDRO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006